

STARS' REGULAR MEETING of July 12th, 2017

The meeting began at 7:30pm in the pavilion at the field in Cuba with the pledge of allegiance by all in attendance.

In Attendance: Randy Bittinger, Jamie Bowen, Rick Bray, Bob Brown, Brad Davis, Dick Fisher, Clark Follett, Ramona Follett, Jim Keough, Frank Leute, Tad Manske, Kevin Neudeck, Tom Orcutt, Dick Say, Don Wehlage and two guests-JoAnne Brown and Sylvia Say; for a total of seventeen.

Minutes: The minutes were read by the secretary. They were passed by vote without change or addenda after motion of Ramona and second of Brad.

Treasurer's Report: Don began his report by listing the following checks written over the past month; to National Grid, Tom Orcutt, Randy Bittinger, Don Wehlage, Erie Insurance, Park-n-Shop, and two each to both Clark and Ramona Follett. Debit card charges for the same period were made to Giant Food Mart, BJ's, Walmart, FPV food, and three for gas. Deposits of the month were from dues, the FPV race, FPV food, and Fun Fly funds.

Don next gave us the current balances for the checking, savings and tractor fund accounts.

Lastly, he put forth preliminary cost and profit figures for both the FPV Races and the 40th Annual event at the airport. He cautioned that he has not yet received all the bills, and that the figures were therefore truly preliminary.

Don was thanked by President Follett for all his hard work, and was given a round of applause by those present.

Instruction: Jim reported that he has begun efforts with Rick and Kevin, and that they are doing very well. One other previous student, Bob Mansour by name, seems to be MIA. Jim has also been contacted by a young lady in Portville, and some young men who seem rather interested. We'll have to see how that all works out.

Membership: Kevin Neudeck was introduced and told us something about himself. He was made a member by vote following motion of Randy and second

of Jim. He was greeted by President Follett who explained member's duties to him, and then with a round of applause by those present.

Web Site: Dale has informed Clark that he will not be able to take over our web site. He said he's just not capable of understanding it all, despite Bob's working with him. Clark said he'll be talking with Phil Nguyen (called simply "Win") about this. Win does this sort of thing for a living.

Bob said we should be using facebook more. It has been very successful for the RotorSTARS. Facebook will improve our putting out of appropriate information faster and better.

FPV Races: It was brought up that we might want to have an FPV event in October. It would be basically as a "thank you" to all those pilots who turned up in June. We might make a few bucks cooking hot dogs and hamburgers, but that would only come through a donations jar. All present seemed very much in favor of the idea. Bob will check schedules and come up with a date for the event.

Fun-Fly: Randy thanked all who took part in this year's event, and wanted especially to single out Clark, Ramona, Tom and Rosemarie as going "above and beyond" what could be expected. Their efforts helped immeasurably to make it a success.

President Follett added his thanks to that of Randy, and gave a special "thank you" to Randy, in this, his last year in charge.

Numerous comments from those in attendance cited how good the band was, that we should be sure to thank all the vendors who supported us (not least by supporting them!), what a great partnership we have with the airport (they really came through for us), and agreeing that we should, like last year, get the airport crew a pizza gift certificate from the club.

The President's Corner: Clark brought up the airport's request that we move our fun-fly in 2019 to the date of their anniversary celebration. After some discussion, it was decided that such a move would put us into conflict with other RC events, especially since we've always been the weekend after the 4th of July. It was suggested however, that maybe we could still support them... possibly by setting up a first-class static display.

Clark remarked that he'd heard no negative comments on the fun-fly, but had been given lots of positive feedback from both pilots and spectators.

He also said that the shuttle had been a very big hit; at which time Randy talked about gasoline costs, set-up problems, and time spent running the shuttle. All agreed that it would be advantageous to have the shuttle again next year, but any arrangements were put on hold for now.

Lastly, Clark brought up the fact that we still need a volunteer to step forward to become a CD to replace Randy.

Vice President's Corner: Dick brought up the idea of having a pylon race at our field... as something unique and different for our area. Bob said he didn't believe we had the room here to meet AMA's safety guidelines for pylon races. At that point, Dick asked all to be thinking of different aspects of our hobby that we might be able to showcase.

Old Business: A long discussion was held on the subject of non-members flying at our field, and at winter fly-in. The idea of "only three visits", versus "fly as often as you want" without joining the club were tossed back and forth. A limited perusal of the constitution and by-laws produced no answer. We will continue to look into the matter, but for now, let non-members fly as often as they'd like, as long as they hold a valid AMA card and are accompanied by a STARS member.

Clark reported on NYSP activity at the field, and the case in question concerning "doughnuts" on our field. The investigation is still an open one, but at least the troopers have been watching our field. As to their recommendation of putting up a camera for surveillance purposes, Randy will look into the cost of such a device, and report back to the club.

Jim reminded everyone to collect and bring back your roadside signs. He knows of three so far that are missing, so... please get them back as soon as possible.

Bob said that in getting rid of our welcome sign (as suggested by the State Police) we still need to appear welcoming to spectators. Dick suggested that we use what he had printed on our advertising placemats, "Come fly with us!" All seemed to feel that was a good alternative.

New Business: It was duly noted that heavy gas fumes, apparently from a leaking generator, were filling the storage building after the Fun-Fly. It was opened, cleared out, and cleaned up, although several said you can still smell the odor of gasoline.

Show and Tell: None tonight

STARS' Stuff: Tom is in the house tonight, see him after the meeting.

The next planning meeting will be Monday, July 31st, here at the field at 7:00pm.

The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, August 9th, here at the field at 7:30pm.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Jamie Bowen and seconded by Tom Orcutt. It was passed by vote at 8:51pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tad P. Manske, Secretary